

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 576**  
ANSWERED ON 7<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY, 2025

**PROMOTION OF FOX NUT INDUSTRY**

**576. SMT. DHARMSHILA GUPTA:**

Will the MINISTER OF *FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES* be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Bihar produces 85 per cent of the total production of the fox nut (makhana) in the country, and whether the Ministry has any special plan to promote this industry,
- (b) whether there is any provision to provide financial assistance for conducting training programmes for farming, processing and marketing to improve fox nut industry; and
- (c) whether any loan facility is available to the farmers engaged in small industries ancillary to the fox nut industry.

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES  
(SHRI RAVNEET SINGH)

**(a) to (c):** The state of Bihar alone produces approximately 85% of total Makhana production in the country as per the “Bihar Makhana at a Glance (Euryale ferox Salisb), 2022”. The Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MoFPI) is implementing a Centrally Sponsored- "Pradhan Mantri Formalisation of Micro Food Processing Enterprises (PMFME) Scheme" for providing financial, technical and business support for upgradation of micro food processing enterprises in the country. The scheme is operational from 2020-21 to 2025-26 with an outlay of Rs. 10,000 Crore. The scheme aims to enhance the competitiveness of existing individual micro-enterprises in the unorganized segment of the food processing industry and promote formalization of the sector. The details of financial assistance offered to the prospective entrepreneurs including those engaged in small industries ancillary to the fox nut industry under PMFME Scheme are at **Annexure I**. Also, the Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MoFPI) has been incentivizing setting up/expansion of Food Processing Industries through its Central Sector scheme namely Pradhan Mantri Kisan SAMPADA Yojana (PMKSY). Assistance can be obtained by those farmers engaged in small industries ancillary to the fox nut industry for processing and marketing of the products. Selection of proposals for financial assistance under these scheme is done as per the prefixed criteria prescribed in the respective scheme guidelines, which are available on MoFPI website ([www.mofpi.gov.in](http://www.mofpi.gov.in)). The details of incentives available under these schemes are at **Annexure II**.

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**ANNEXURE I REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) to (c) OF RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 576 FOR ANSWER ON 7<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY, 2025 REGARDING “PROMOTION OF FOX NUT INDUSTRY”**

**The details of assistance available to Micro Food Processing Enterprises under PMFME Scheme**

- (i). *Support to Individual / Group Category Micro Enterprises:* Credit-linked capital subsidy @35% of the eligible project cost, maximum ceiling Rs.10 lakh per unit;
- (ii). *Support to SHGs for seed capital:* Seed capital @ Rs. 40,000/- per member of SHG engaged in food processing for working capital and purchase of small tools subject to maximum of Rs. 4 lakh per SHG Federation.
- (iii). *Support for Common Infrastructure:* Credit linked capital subsidy @35% subject to maximum of Rs. 3 crore to support FPOs, SHGs, Cooperatives and any Government agency for setting up of common infrastructure. The common infrastructure will also be available for other units and public to utilize on hiring basis for substantial part of the capacity.
- (iv). *Branding and Marketing Support:* Grant upto 50% for Branding and Marketing to groups of FPOs/ SHGs/ Cooperatives or an SPV of micro food processing enterprises.
- (v). *Capacity Building:* The scheme envisages training for Entrepreneurship Development Skilling (EDP+): program modified to meet the requirement of food processing industry and product specific skilling.

**ANNEXURE II REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) to (c) OF RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 576 FOR ANSWER ON 7<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY, 2025 REGARDING “PROMOTION OF FOX NUT INDUSTRY”**

**Incentives available under Pradhan Mantri Kisan Sampada Yojana (PMKSY)**

<b>S. No.</b>	<b>Component Scheme</b>	<b>Scheme Benefits (Grant-in-aid) for projects in General Area</b>	<b>Scheme Benefits (Grant-in-aid) for projects in Difficult Areas as well as SC/ST, FPOs, SHGs</b>
1.	Integrated Cold Chain and Value Addition Infrastructure	Grant-in-aid @ 35% of eligible project cost [subject to maximum of Rs.10 crores per project]	Grant-in-aid @ 50% of eligible project cost [subject to maximum of Rs. 10 crores per project]
2.	Creation/ Expansion of Food Processing & Preservation Capacities	Grants-in-Aid @35% of eligible project cost [subject to maximum of Rs. 5 crores per project]	Grants-in-Aid @50% of eligible project cost [subject to maximum of Rs.5 crores per project]
3.	Infrastructure for Agro-Processing Clusters	Grants-in-aid @35% of eligible project cost in General Area [subject to maximum of Rs. 10 crores per project]	Grants-in-aid @50% of eligible project [subject to max. of Rs. 10 crore per project]
4.	Operation Greens	Grants-in-Aid @35% of eligible project cost for Integrated Value Chain Development Projects, maximum grants-in-aid would be ₹15 crore per project; and for Standalone Post-Harvest Infrastructure Projects, maximum grants-in-aid would be ₹10 crore per project.	Grants-in-Aid maximum @50% of eligible project cost for Integrated Value Chain Development Projects, maximum grants-in-aid would be ₹15 crore per project; and for Standalone Post-Harvest Infrastructure Projects, maximum grants-in-aid would be ₹10 crore per project.
5.	Food Safety and Quality Assurance - Food Testing Laboratories	100% grants-in-aid for Govt. organizations  For Private organizations/entities: grant-in-aid of @ 50% of the eligible cost	For Private organizations/entities: grant-in-aid of @ 70% of the eligible cost

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